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NO: 1121, OCTOBER 13

COMMENTING ON THE PERSONAL DIPLOMACY OF KING SAUD IN THE
ARAB WORLD, RENE AGIOURRI, WRITING EDITORIALY IN TODAY'S
L'ORIENT SAID:

"...KING SAUD PLAYS, TODAY, HIS LATEST CARD (PERHAPS THE
LAST), IN AN EFFORT NORMALIZE INTER-ARAB RELATIONS. HE HAS
PLACED ON THE SCALES ALL HIS PRESTIGE. VERITABLE PILGRIM OF
GOOD WILL, HE GOES FROM ONE CAPITAL TO ANOTHER MULTIPLYING
HIS APPEASING DECLARATIONS AND VERBAL CONCESSIONS.

THANKS HIS PERSONAL INTERVENTION, SITUATION CREATED BY
SYRIA IS NO LONGER TREATED IN WASHINGTON OUTSIDE THE ARABS.
HE HAS MADE IT AN ARAB AFFAIR OUTSIDE OF AMERICA. HE HAS
SUCCEEDED IN INSTIGATING DIRECT TALKS BETWEEN DAMASCUS
BAGHDAD; AND SOON, THE IRAQI PREMIER WILL PERSONALLY GO
CAIRO TO TALK WITH ABDUL NASSER.

"THE AIM OF KING IS CLEARLY BRING THE BLOC OF ARAB STATES
WHICH HAVE DECIDED FOR AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP TO ADOPT A MORE
FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE IN ORDER FINALLY PERMIT AN ALIGNMENT OF ALL
NEAR EASTERN STATES, INCLUDING EGYPT AND SYRIA, ON THE SAME
POLICY.

"HE HAS ALREADY OBTAINED ADOPTION OF SUCH AN ATTITUDE
OF TRACTABILITY FROM IRAQ AND LEBANON. (AND HE CAN OBTAIN
IT, IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING, FROM JORDAN).

"DAMASCUS AND CAIRO, ARE THEY READY TO COME TO A MEETING
OF MINDS WITH BAGHDAD, BEIRUT AND RIYADH?

"THIS IS CRUCIAL QUESTION WHICH OUGHT TO BE MADE THE GOAL OF
SECOND PHASE OF SAUDI DIPLOMACY. UNTIL NOW, DAMASCUS AND CAIRO
HAVE NOT

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-2- 1121, OCTOBER 13, FROM BEIRUT

HAVE NOT SHOWN ANY GOOD WILL. THEY DECLARE, TO WHOMEVER WILL LISTEN, THAT THEY ARE NOT COMMUNIST: "WE ARE CAPITALIST STATES." THIS IS CORRECT. BUT THEY ARE, IN THE NAME OF "POSITIVE NEUTRALISM" IMMERSSED UP TO THEIR NOSES IN THE COLD WAR. ALL THE CAUSES OF THE USSR ARE THEIR CAUSES. ALL THE SOVIET ARGUMENTS ARE THEIR ARGUMENTS. THEY HAVE VOTED AT UN FOR RED CHINA AND FOR KADAR'S HUNGARY. AND SUCCESS OF "BABY MOON" HAS BECOME A TRIUMPH OF THE SYRO-EGYPTIAN SCIENCE AND STRATEGY.

THEY SEE IN AMERICAN POLICY ONLY "PLOTS" AND "AGGRESSIONS" AGAINST ARAB NATIONALISM.

"GUMHURIA" IS NO MORE THAN A REPRODUCTION OF "PRAVDA" AND TRAHIR TREATS BOURGUIBA AS A TRAITOR BECAUSE TUNISIA PREFERS BUY ITS ARMAMENT IN ITALY RATHER THAN IN PRAGUE. "ALL THAT WOULD STILL BE NOTHING, IF THESE DIVERSE PROPAGANDA THEMES WOULD NOT BE TURNED IMMEDIATELY AND SYSTEMATICALLY AGAINST THESE STATES WHICH HAVE DECIDED TO COOPERATE WITH THE WEST.

"THUS, WHILE THESE STATES, AT INITIATIVE OF KING SAUD, IN AN EFFORT TO DISENGAGE THEMSELVES FROM THE EAST-WEST COLD WAR, SEARCH FOR A COMMON GROUND FOR ALL ARABS, EGYPT AND SYRIA GET THEMSELVES WANTONLY IN A POSITION WHICH MAKES THE WAHABITE SOVEREIGN'S TASK MORE DIFFICULT. " WILL THE KING SUCCEED TO PLACE ABDUL NASSER FACE TO FACE WITH HIS RESPONSIBILITIES?" PASS USIA.

HEATH

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